ASBESTOS

MARCH, NINETEEN FORTY-ONE

ASBESTOS TEXTILES

TOTAL DEFENSE

OUR NATION'S CURRENT UNDERTAKING IN PREPARING FOR TOTAL DEFENSE PLACES UPON INDUSTRY AN OBLIGATION THAT MUST BE MEASURED IN TERMS OF MORE THAN DIRECT SUPPLIES TO THE ARMY AND NAVY. INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES IS INTER-DEPENDENT. THE ASBESTOS INDUSTRY SHARES IN THIS OBLIGATION IN ITS SERVICE WITH PACKINGS AND HEAT INSULATION TO POWER PLANTS AND THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, WITH VARIOUS ASBESTOS PRODUCTS TO THE METAL AND AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRIES; WITH TEXTILE PRODUCTS TO WIRE AND CABLE MANUFACTURERS FOR ELECTRICAL INSULATION; WITH ROVING, YARN, TAPE, TUBING AND CLOTH TO THE ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY; WITH MANY PRODUCTS TO THE OIL AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES.

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"ASBESTOS"

FOUNDED IN JULY 1919 AND PUBLISHED
CONTINUOUSLY SINCE THAT DATE

A. S. ROSSITER, *EDITOR*

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY SECRETARIAL SERVICE
16th FLOOR INQUIRER BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

C. J. STOVER, *Proprietor*

Entered As Second Class Matter November 23, 1923, at the Post Office at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Under Act of March 3, 1879

Volume 22 | MARCH 1941 | Number 9

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

U. S. AND MEXICO	$2.00 PER YEAR
CANADA	2.50 " "
FOREIGN COUNTRIES	3.00 " "
SINGLE COPIES	.25 EACH

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EMPLOYEE RELATIONSHIP-- AND THE DEFENSE PROGRAM

Editorial by G. M. Williams, President The Russell Mfg. Co.

G. M. Williams

George M. Williams, became President of the Russell Manufacturing Company, Middletown, Conn., manufacturers of cotton belting, elastic webbing, woven asbestos brake lining and other woven products, in 1934, having previous to that time served as President of the Marmon Motor Car Company. He was born in Nanaimo, B. C., Canada, graduated at Trinity College, Port Hope, Canada in 1907; was a student at Sault Ste Marie Technical Institute. Began his business career as assistant engineer in connection with hydrographic surveys of northern Canada. In 1911 became assistant chief engineer, and later chief engineer, of H. E. Talbott Company of Dayton, Ohio. Was general manager of Dayton Wright Company from 1915 to 1922; President of the Wire Wheel Corporation of America from 1922 to 1924 and President of the Marmon Motor Car Company from 1924 to 1933. Mr. Williams is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and of the Society of Automotive Engineers; also of the Edgewood, Hartford and Farmington Country Clubs in Connecticut; Metropolitan, Cloud and Canadian Clubs in New York, and of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club. His ideas on employee relationship will, we believe, be of great interest to "ASBESTOS" readers.

Business today is abnormal; it is abnormal from the several viewpoints of volume of production, employees' compensation, profit potentialties and federal taxes. These abnormal conditions emanate in a large part from the expansion of the business volume by the addition of defense production to the regular production of established business.

Wage earners and salaried employees are being called upon, not only to work harder during regular hours, but also to work extra hours. This extraordinary production effort is necessary as a means of accomplishing the extraordinary production and delivery schedules that must be attained to meet the requirements of the government on defense materials and of other customers on the regular products of the business. Such regular

products of business in so many cases contribute directly or indirectly to the defense program.

One of the most difficult problems confronting business during this abnormal period is to give proper recognition to its employees by adequate compensation for their efforts in the execution of this heavy program.

In working out the solution of this program of proper compensation to employees, management must keep in mind certain fundamental business principles which might be summarized as follows:

1. The preservation of the competitive position and earning power of the business.
2. The preservation of a sound capital structure with sufficient liquidity for:
   a. The payment of the current high rates of federal income and excess-profits taxes;
   b. The regular replenishment of plant and equipment, whether worn out by use or obsolete by age;
   c. The expansion of inventories and receivables incidental to an expanding business; and
   d. The continuous pursuit of product research and development necessary to a sound economy.
3. The necessity for striking a balance between compensation to employees and dividends to stockholders, with a fair and equitable return to each.

In the opinion of many business executives the best manner of meeting wage and salary problems in a way consistent with the described fundamental business principles is to provide an extra compensation for employees based upon profits. More specifically, there should be an allocation to employees of a definite share of the profits in excess of a fixed amount, the latter being determined in advance by the necessities of the business, after provision for the payment of federal taxes, for expansion of working capital, fixed asset additions and reasonable dividend payments. Obviously there can be no standard formula for a plan of this kind; it must be developed especially for the individual business, taking into consideration its own requirements.

Confidence in the management on the part of em-

ployees is a basic necessity for the adoption and successful execution of any plan of extra compensation for employees involving profit-sharing. The plan must be devised by management to yield an adequate extra compensation for employees, and the employees must have confidence in management that it will so function.

Employee confidence in management is inspired by fair treatment. The reasonable demands of labor cannot be dismissed with a wave of the hand. Frank discussions of all problems existing and arising with respect to compensation, working conditions and the like must be discussed with intelligence and patience. Employee representatives should be familiarized with many managerial problems in order that they may understand the reasons for certain policy decisions which might, without such knowledge, seem inconsistent with their point of view. The "tough guy" attitude on the part of management is obsolete and definitely inappropriate to the social conditions which have developed in industry during the past several years.

GENERAL LICENSE FOR EXPORT OF ASBESTOS

General License No. GAC 2 has been issued by Brigadier General Russell L. Maxwell, U. S. Administrator of Export Control permitting the export of asbestos to Great Britain and Northern Ireland without the requirement of an individual license.

Collectors of Customs were notified to that effect by the Department of State on March 3rd.

Eighty-three of these General Licenses have been issued in all, each covering a different article or material.

—:—

Correction—The article "Asbestos in Plastics" in our February 1941 number gave the address of Emile Hemming of Plastic Products, Inc., as Detroit, Mich. The address should have been given as 415 Lexington Ave., New York City.

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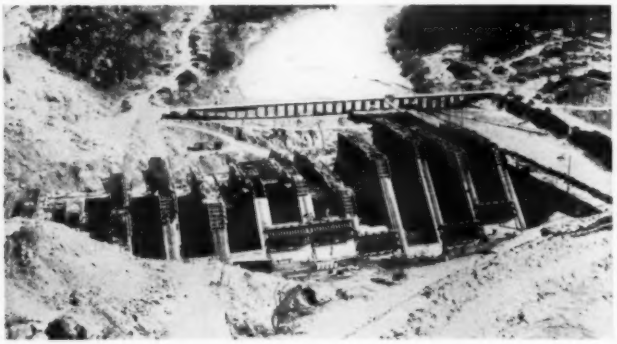
CANADA

ASBESTOS CLOTH--

Uniquely Used at Possum Kingdom Dam

On the plains of central Texas, about twenty-five miles northwest of Mineral Wells, there is in course of construction a huge dam which has many unique features.

The Possum Kingdom Dam, which will store nearly a million acre-feet of Brazos River flood waters, as the initial element of a flood control, water conservation and power development system is, in fact, the first dam of the massive buttress type, ever constructed. It is 189½



Possum Kingdom Dam in course of construction. Asbestos cloth is used for expansion joints.

feet high above the lowest foundation and over half a mile (2740 feet) long; it is planned to raise the water 130 feet from original river level to normal pool.

All of these facts are of general interest, but none of them is responsible for their publication in "ASBESTOS". To the readers of "ASBESTOS", the one outstanding, unusual and astounding fact about this dam is the use of asbestos cloth to help form an anti-friction, water-tight expansion joint between the main concrete deck slabs and the 176 supporting buttresses.

The asbestos cloth used (of Keasbey & Mattison

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manufacture) is only 1/16" thick, yet the pressure on it is sometimes as much as 12,000 pounds per square foot. It performs the function of reducing the friction between the slabs and the buttresses to allow for the movement of the deck slab due to temperature changes without putting undue stress on the buttresses which support this deck slab.

Asbestos Cloth was chosen for this particular feat because the fibres are a mineral composition and will not disintegrate with time. No organic material would have the long life which is normally expected from asbestos cloth.

TO OUR MANY FRIENDS--

Appreciation

Frequently we are asked for specimens of crude asbestos; visitors are enthusiastically grateful when given a small piece of crude—in fact it is a never failing talisman to goodwill.

But we must depend on the kindness of mine producers for pieces of crude from which we can split off such specimens.

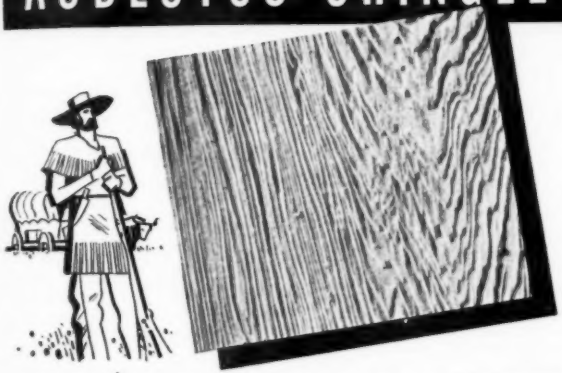
Recently we appealed to the Keasbey & Mattison Company for such a sample, and were most graciously offered a thirty pound piece of asbestos rock showing large veins of the mineral running thru it. The offer had to be regretfully declined, however, because it would have been entirely too heavy for us to handle, and our "tools" consist solely of an ice pick, a screw driver and a small hammer, rather inadequate equipment with which to "cob" off the rock from the veins of asbestos.

Understanding our dilemma, the K&M Co. thereupon sent us a large number of small pieces of beautiful Canadian Crude, each piece neatly wrapped and ready to hand to interested people.

These are the kind of things which make our work pleasant. There are very few firms in the Asbestos Industry who have not rendered us courtesies of one kind or another from time to time. We take this opportunity of thanking one and all.

K&M best in asbestos

ASBESTOS SHINGLES



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A. M. McCAMMON--

Appointed Secretary-Treasurer of Johnson's Company

On January 25th, 1941, Johnson's Company of Thetford Mines, P. Q., Canada, who as our readers know, is one of the oldest Producers of Raw Asbestos in Canada, appointed A. M. McCammon as Secretary-Treasurer of the Company, to succeed the late A. M. Robinson.

Mr. McCammon was born January 16th, 1895. He was educated at Inverness Academy, Inverness, Que.,

A. J. McCammon,
Newly Appointed
Secretary-Treasurer
of
Johnson's Company

served overseas with the 7th Battery, Canadian Expeditionary Force, from January 1916 to the end of hostilities in 1918.

Upon being demobilized he was connected for a few years with Wayagamac Pulp & Paper Company and also with Holt Renfrew Co., Quebec City.

In May, 1927, Mr. McCammon joined Johnson's Company as Chief Accountant, which position he held until his appointment as Secretary-Treasurer.

—:—

The secret of happiness is not in doing what one likes but in liking what one does.

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SEALING OIL SANDS--

By F. R. Cozzens

In the petroleum industry, when a well ceases production of oil or gas, the pumping equipment is salvaged and the hole is plugged. Plugging, a requirement enforced by rigid state laws, is accomplished by closing the opening at the top of the sand thru which the drill has penetrated, the purpose being to seal the sand from outside interference. Almost any sort of material can be, and has been used for the purpose, but in re-drilling localities which had previously been plugged, it is being discovered that many materials fail to provide a lasting result. Mineral oxides, acids, sulphur, salt, etc., over the course of years have loosened, corroded, and otherwise damaged the plugging until sands have been left exposed to most destructive elements. In certain localities, especially in Ohio and West Virginia, thousands of acres of valuable oil territory have been ruined by water thru the faulty plugging of abandoned wells. These discoveries have led to radical changes in the sealing of oil and gas sands. Solid plugs have been discarded almost entirely. In their place have been introduced non-corrosive pliable types, in the preparation of which asbestos plays a very important part.

The type of plug which has passed the most rigid tests as to efficiency and durability has a base of plastic cement, into which is stirred sufficient short fibre asbestos to make up 60% of its bulk. This material is packed into tapered containers, three feet in length, the top end being a trifle smaller than the inside diameter of the casing. The containers are made of thin grade sheet steel, or other metal which will crush and spread apart easily under pressure. As many as one hundred of these plugs are prepared and held in readiness on the average oil-lease.

When a well is to be abandoned, the operator selects a plug of the proper size and drops it, pointed end downward thru the casing. The extreme top of the sand-rock, called the shoulder, upon which the casing rests, is still

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Canadian Crude
Canadian Spinning Fibre
Canadian Shingle Fibre
Cyprus Asbestos
Italian Crude
Russian Crude
Rhodesian Crude
South African Blue Crude
South African Yellow Crude

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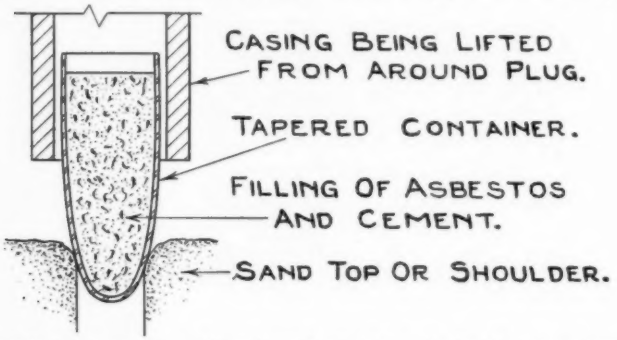
slightly smaller in bore than the casing itself, and it can be understood that the tapered point of the plug penetrates into the sand, while the top firmly wedges itself in the shoulder. The casing is then lifted by powerful machinery from over and around the plug, and sediment falling in on top presses the container and its contents into every crevice of the sand opening. By the time pressure has ceased, the cement has hardened, and that particular well is sealed permanently.

Asbestos in a plug of this type serves first, as a binder for the cement. Second, it is noncorrosive, and is not damaged by acids, sulphur, salt, oil or sludge. Third, it forms the required amount of bulk necessary for sealing the hole, yet presses easily into crevices which may, and often do,



radiate in various directions from the hole itself. Another very important feature, learned recently, is that the asbestos-cement plug, because of its resiliency, is not easily affected by vibrations resulting from explosive charges made necessary in re-drilling nearby locations.

Since asbestos fibre can be utilized in almost any plastic base, sand sealing can be done in wells regardless of diameter or depth. In depths exceeding 3000 feet, rubber is generally used as a base, asbestos fibre making up 50% to 70% of the bulk. In certain wells where the shoulder has been shot away or crumbled, excellent results are being obtained by bridging a point in the sand-face

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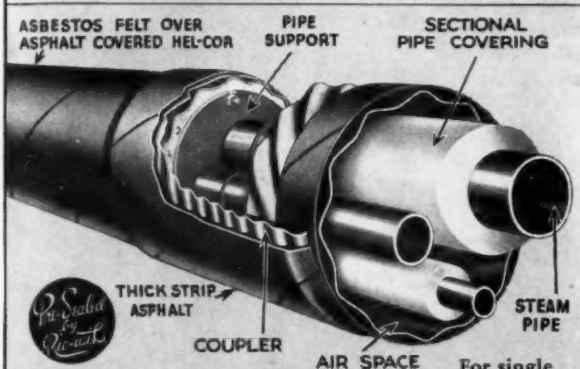

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with rock, then releasing down upon it a mixture made up of twenty-five gallons of water, cement and asbestos. On these occasions asbestos waste, floor-sweepings, etc., are often substituted for standard fibre. In other wells where it is necessary to seal off water sands from an oil-producing rock, a specially built plug is used, it being prepared by wrapping a rubber core with asbestos tape or yarn, building it up to the correct casing diameter. Rubber cores for the purpose are made commercially.

Sealing oil and gas sands by the asbestos-plastic base method is carried out by the oil-field crew without special equipment. Results in practically every well mean a saving in money and time, plus a permanent guarantee of sand safety for future operations.

ASBESTOS--INDIA

Some good deposits of asbestos, consisting of both chrysotile and amphibole varieties, occur in the Hassan and Mysore districts of India, according to report from Consul Curtis C. Jordan of Madras, which is given in the February 20th issue of Mineral Trade Notes, published by the U. S. Bureau of Mines.

The amphibole asbestos is present in great quantities, and a few of the deposits in the Hassan district had been worked slightly before 1922.

Two of the chrysotile deposits have been opened, but they are in smaller veins and stringers in serpentine rocks. These minerals have not been mined extensively, but owing to the interest shown in them recently it is likely that they will be exploited further.

It has been reported that chrysotile asbestos of excellent quality originating in India has reached the United States market recently.

Note: A specimen of the chrysotile asbestos from India has been received by "ASBESTOS" and it is indeed very excellent material, long, strong and silky, but we understand did not come from the deposits above mentioned.

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CONSERVATION FOR DEFENSE

Use of Asbestos Materials Frees Wood and Metals for Drastic Needs

Asbestos Products and the Asbestos Industry are rather closely tied up with the Defense Program.

Not only is the raw material, asbestos, considered a *critical* material, but many asbestos products are also necessary directly and indirectly in connection with the manufacture of the machinery of defense, with the building of cantonments, new factories, housing—in fact the potential use of asbestos products during the next few years rather staggers the imagination.

Run over in your mind the principal asbestos products—pausing after each one to think just how and where it can be used in connection with defense. Packings,—brake linings and clutch facings,—insulation,—millboard,—asbestos-cement sheets,—shingles and siding—corrugated roofing and siding,—pipes.

Besides the usual uses of asbestos-cement shingles and siding, remember that these materials can, and do, replace wood; therefore their use will conserve wood—timber—releasing it for other purposes.

Likewise asbestos-cement corrugated roofing and siding, and asbestos-cement pipes replace metals (iron for instance) meaning that by their use metals are conserved for purposes where metals are absolutely necessary.

While the Western Hemisphere, and North America alone, has large quantities of minerals and metals of practically all kinds, and a serious shortage of most of them is beyond thought, at the same time, conservation of the manufactured product, means conservation of man power, of time, machinery, tools, and a host of other items required to produce them, of which we have probably a very hazy conception.

There is another conservation angle in the Asbestos Industry which must be considered in this discussion. As we all know South African Blue Asbestos (Crocidolite)

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because of its high acid resisting qualities, is very useful in the making of various materials, such as insulation, filtration cloths, packing, needed in plants manufacturing acids.

There is at the moment no shortage or fear of shortage of blue asbestos so far as actual production is concerned, but the shipping situation is giving some concern to those interested in importing and fabricating blue materials. To this end it may be wise to give some thought to the substitution of the chrysotile varieties of asbestos (of which there are such abundant supplies in North America), to the end that blue materials may be directed into channels for use where it is needed in the manufacture of acids.

This discussion is purely one of obvious facts, but many times the obvious is overlooked and it is well to give some thought to these things while there is still time to think, and to plan.

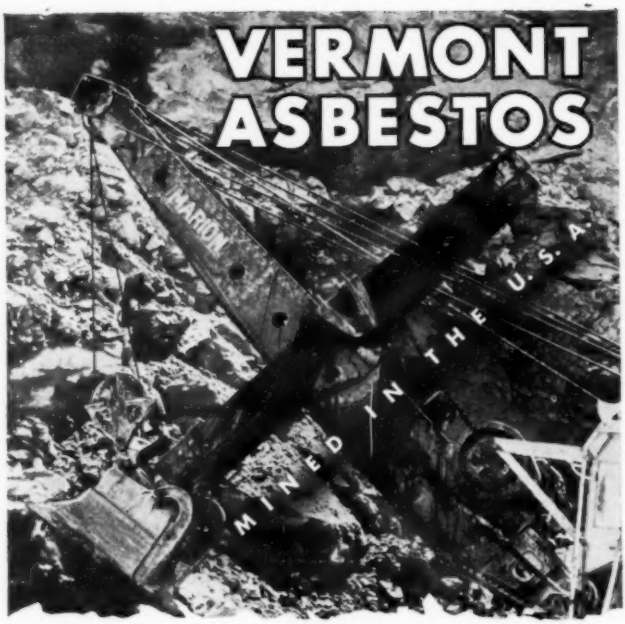
BOLIVIA--

Its Asbestos Deposits

With South American countries looming large in the thoughts of almost everyone, the following report by U. S. Consul Allan Dawson, at LaPaz, Bolivia, will be of interest to our readers. The report appeared in the January 20, 1941 issue of Mineral Trade Notes, published by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C.

"Deposits of asbestos in the Department of Cochabamba, Bolivia, have been known for many years and were first developed in 1907, but the insurmountable obstacle to marketing the product at that time was lack of transportation, and the project was soon abandoned. However, with the construction of an all-weather road about 8 or 9 years ago from Cochabamba to Palmar interest was renewed. Now that this road recently has been extended to San Antonio, which is only about 20 kilometers (about 12 miles) from the mining sites, the problem of transportation has become even simpler.

"The exact location of the asbestos deposits is on the



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Espiritu Santo River, Mendoza Canton, Chapare Province, Department of Cochabamba. The largest and best known of the developments, Mina Cristal Mayo, owned by one man, is 20 kilometers from San Antonio, a village about 180 kilometers northeast of Cochabamba. Minas Mayo, a smaller and less important working owned by two others, is about 4 kilometers beyond Cristal Mayo. Thus far both of these mines have been operated only experimentally. The all-weather road extends as far as San Antonio, but from this point on, the road, at one time in fairly good condition, has been allowed to deteriorate and, according to reports, is now passable only with difficulty.

"The Consulate has learned from the Sociedad de Inversiones Comerciales, La Paz, that this firm considers itself the sole exporter of asbestos from Bolivia at present. The company says that in 1940 it exported between 60 and 70 metric tons of asbestos, the great bulk of which was shipped to Japan. The importing firm in Japan has made tests of the asbestos it has received and, according to the Sociedad de Inversiones Comerciales, having found it of acceptable quality, is negotiating to obtain a regular monthly supply. The Bolivian firm is quoting a price of $110 per metric ton f.o.b. Arica and says that it could probably export between 25 and 50 tons a month.

"On November 18, 1940, the Casa Barber Co., Cochabamba, obtained an invoice in the Consulate for the shipment of about 20 tons of asbestos to a company in New York. According to Mr. Barber, this was to be a sample shipment, and he had no idea what might develop from it. He said that the deposits of asbestos in the region above described were quite extensive and could be developed considerably more than is being done at present. Since this was the first shipment the company had made, and he was uncertain as to the cost of transportation from the mine to seaboard, he was unable to estimate accurately the price he would be able to quote, but for the purposes of the invoice he gave a value of $0.122 per kilo, or about $122 per metric ton, f. o. b. Arica."

—:—

Whether the above relates to the Bolivian Blue

Asbestos which has been the subject of inquiry during the last few months, is not certain. For the benefit of those readers who have not seen a specimen of this Bolivian Blue we might say that it is very beautiful in color and texture, but no one in the United States so far as we can learn has ever found any practical use for it.

This is principally because it is very weak in structure and, altho it appears to be acid resistant, as is South African Blue, it is not nearly strong enough to spin, nor, for that matter, to use as a filler, or as a binder.

If any of our readers have succeeded in finding a place where it can be used, however, it will be to your advantage to tell us about it.

A small specimen will be sent to any reader requesting it, provided the request is written on his business letterhead. It makes a really unique addition to anyone's collection of asbestos specimens.

DEFECTIVE BRAKES IN MOTOR ACCIDENTS

In the 36,870 fatal motor accidents in 1940, 810 of the cars had defective brakes.

In the 1,385,400 accidents of a non-fatal character, 22,170 of the cars had defective brakes.

While this seems a small percentage, nevertheless defective brakes were far in advance of any other defective equipment, as being the cause, or at least as being present. For instance only 410 of the cars in fatal accidents had one or both headlights out and only 180 had defective steering mechanism, while in the non-fatal class, 160 had glaring headlights, 8,320 had one or both headlights out, and 5,560 had the tail lights out or obscured.

Those interested will find many edifying facts and tables in the pamphlet "Here Today" recently published by The Travelers Insurance Company, Hartford, Conn., and available to anyone upon request addressed to the Company or any of its agents.

MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS

The defense program is beginning to overshadow all other business. While it has been hoped that underneath the deluge of defense needs, usual demand for various commodities of American so-called "necessities" and even of luxuries, could be adequately cared for, there is a growing conviction that this cannot be altogether accomplished. Scarcity in some lines is bound to be felt,—machine tools for instance—and this will probably carry into many other lines which, to the uniformed would appear to have no connection whatever. It's the old story of the horse shoe nail.

The public should beware, however, of false reports or rumors of shortages, especially in many staple commodities. When the facts are given careful study, (even at this early date such studies have been made) there is found to be no shortage at all, but entirely adequate supplies on hand, or easily procurable.

And in some cases substitution of other materials make shortages entirely unimportant. An excellent instance is aluminum kitchenware which, true enough, may become hard to get, but there are glass, earthenware, enamel, which are quite as satisfactory as substitutes, even more attractive and can be easily obtained.

ASBESTOS - RAW MATERIAL

There is no doubt that the national defense is responsible for the increased demand for asbestos in the United States. Consumption is rapidly increasing; demand is excellent for all grades of fibre; prices remain firm.

ASBESTOS—MANUFACTURED GOODS

Textiles. Demand continues very strong and there is some indication of a stiffening in price conditions generally. Quite naturally the preparedness program has a very definite influence on this demand and it appears that this will continue to be the case for some months to come.

Brake Lining. From all indications sales for January

will record an increase over the total for the same month last year and sales for domestic consumption will also exceed those for January 1940. Sales for export will be lower, this decline being directly due to the international situation.

Paper and Millboard. Volume in these commodities is holding up well, with every indication that these materials will show excellent volume regardless of seasonal trend. This, of course, results from the defense activities, tremendous quantities of both these commodities being used in many and various ways in connection with making or housing of defense industries.

Insulation. High Pressure. Operations continue at a high rate and orders booked presage satisfactory production levels for some time to come. Prices are steady.

Insulation. Low Pressure. Volume is holding up fairly well; prices, generally speaking, are holding firm.

Asbestos Cement Products. National defense construction continues to keep shipments of asbestos-cement products of all kinds considerably above normal for this season of the year.

The prospects are that the industry equipment for the production of industrial products, such as Corrugated and Flat Sheets, will be running at capacity for many months to come, while the sale of roof shingles and sidings will also be considerably above the level of previous years.

Executives closely in touch with the several asbestos markets have made these various comments; ideas and opinions on market trends are always welcome from any reader.

RAW ASBESTOS

N. V. NEDERLANDSCHE ASBEST MY

P. O. BOX 803

ROTTERDAM (Holland)

Stock at Rotterdam

THEY SAY!

When Bradford Washburn procured his equipment for survey of the Alaska-Yukon Boundary, he ordered for his entire party, from G. H. Bass & Co., of Wilton, Me., (Shoemakers since 1876) boots which had an "asbestos bottom filler." The asbestos material used was, according to G. H. Bass & Co., "asbestos sheets similar to those used for steam pipe insulation." The boots were made with heavy iron campons on the soles. They were satisfactory to Mr. Washburn; in fact he reported that no one in the entire party had a single "cold toe."

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Defense was the keynote at the 54th Annual Convention of the United Roofing Contractors' Association held at Louisville, Ky, January 27, 28 and 29. The annual election of officers returned all incumbents to office: Myron W. Powell, President; Milton Carpenter, First Vice President; Harry O. Rex, Second Vice President; C. C. Figge, Treasurer, and James McCawley, Secretary. Headquarters of the U. R. C. A. are at 53 W. 46th St., New York City.

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Ten thousand pairs of asbestos gloves for civilian fire fighters have been ordered by the American Theatre Wing of the British War Relief. This is the largest American charity for war relief in Britain. Another item on its list of purchases was 10,000 tons of vegetable seeds for spring sowing.

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A recent telephone inquiry revealed an odd use for asbestos material. The inquirer was the U. S. Fruit and Drug Administration, and they wanted to know where they could obtain an asbestos ring for fruit jars. These are used in sterilizing by hot air, as rubber rings have a tendency to stick. We imagine an asbestos cloth ring would serve, but would be glad to have the ideas of asbestos manufacturers on the problem.

CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

Building

Construction in the 37 states east of the Rocky Mountains continued at a high level of activity during January. The total valuation of contracts awarded, the best January figure since 1930, amounted to $305,205,000, 55 per cent greater than the January 1940 total.

In January 1941, the dollar volume of commercial building was $26,944,000 compared with $15,924,000 in January 1940, and manufacturing building was $55,948,000 compared with $12,865,000. At the same time, small home building continued to be quite active. January valuation of contracts awarded for the construction of one- and two-family dwellings was 76 per cent larger than during January 1940.

It is likely that the pace of private capital investment in building has been accelerated by demands outgrowing from the defense program. The noticeable increase in activity in commercial and manufacturing buildings, however, is not only ascribable to this factor, but also probably to anticipation of an upsurge this year in the demand for consumer goods which will be created by the additional income as a result of increased industrial production.

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Tables for estimating on fittings, flanges, etc., (for complete list see page 29 of September 1940 "ASBESTOS") have been found very helpful. The set of 12 costs $1.00. Send orders to "ASBESTOS", 16th Fl., Inquirer Bldg., Philadelphia.

L O O K

. . . at the possibilities for increased sales awaiting you among the nation's roofing and siding contractors.

Send for your free copy of "Inside Story" today

AMERICAN ROOFER

425 Fourth Avenue **New York City**

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

BIRTHDAYS

W. B. Harris, Vice President, The Ruberoid Co., New York City, March 17.

Wm. F. Tyson, Vice President and Assistant Treasurer, American Asbestos Company, Norristown, Pa., March 23.

William G. Kuehn, President, Westchester Asbestos Corporation, White Plains, N. Y., March 25.

F. V. S. Smith, Director & Secretary, Hodgson & Hodgson, Ltd., Carrington, Nottingham, England, March 29.

W. C. Bowman, Vice President in charge of sales, Philip Carey Mfg., Co., Lockland, Cincinnati, O., March 30.

Glendon A. Richards, President, Richards Mfg. Co., Grand Rapids, Mich., April 1.

G. M. Williams, President, Russell Manufacturing Co., Middletown, Conn., April 6.

J. M. Weaver, Textile Research Engineer, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., North Charleston, S. C., April 14.

Philip A. Meyer, Treasurer, Sall Mountain Co., New York City, April 16.

To all these gentlemen we extend best wishes and congratulations on the occasion of their birthdays.

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RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC., reports net income in 1940 of $1,696,926.17, or $2.70 per share, after providing $911,821.20 for depreciation and $886,500.00 for state and federal income and defense taxes, and the excess profits tax. The Company's total assets at December 31, 1940 amounted to $19,821,318.15 including $11,161,719.37 of current assets, equivalent to nearly five times the current liabilities. There was no banking or funded debt or other capital obligation outstanding. The assets, liabilities and net income of the wholly owned Canadian subsidiary have not been included. They would have no material effect on the consolidated statement of the Company, but will be reported in the annual report of the Corporation.

The Directors of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., at their meeting on February 19, declared a dividend of 37½c per share, payable March 15, 1941 to stockholders of record at the close of business February 28, 1941.

SUMNER SIMPSON, President, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., is a member of the National Association of Manufacturers 1941 Committee on National Defense, appointed early in January.

• BLUE ASBESTOS

The Cape Asbestos Company, Ltd., is the world's largest supplier of acid-resistant blue crocidolite asbestos, and the only manufacturer operating its own mines. Inquiries solicited on:

MILLBOARD **YARNS**
ROVINGS **POWDER** **CLOTHS**
PROCESSED FIBRES
Unexcelled for use in
ASBESTOS CEMENT PIPES

• AMOSITE ASBESTOS

This fibre owing to its great length and bulk is unrivalled for use as an insulating medium in:

Asbestos mattress filler
85% Magnesia Insulation

The CAPE ASBESTOS CO. Limited
Morley House, 28-30 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1.
FACTORY, BARKING, ESSEX

United States Sales Agent:
ARNOLD W. KOEHLER
415 LEXINGTON AVE. **NEW YORK CITY**
TELEPHONE—VANDERBILT 6-1477

J. J. GREENE–Vice-President of Johns-Manville Succumbs to Heart Attack

The death of J. J. Greene, Vice President of the Johns-Manville Sales Corporation, was announced on February 28th by company officials. Mr. Greene, whose home was at New Rochelle, N. Y., died on February 27th, following a heart attack while he was playing golf at the Pinecrest Lakes Club, Avon Park, Fla., where he was on vacation.

J. J. Greene

Born in London, England, in 1878, Mr. Greene came to Canada at an early age, and later to the United States. He was educated in mechanical engineering in Toronto, was connected with the engineering firm of McMann & Taylor of New York City, for four years, leaving that company to become Johns-Manville sales representative in Albany, N. Y., in 1906.

Mr. Greene was widely known in the electrical and utilities fields, was a member of J-M Quarter Century Club; the Mohawk Club of Schenectady, the Engineers Club of New York and the Wykagyl Club of New Rochelle. He was also a member of the American Gas Association and the National Electric Manufacturers Association.

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THERMAL STUDIES ON ASBESTOS

Two papers on this subject are published in the February 1941 issue of the Canadian Journal of Research.

The first—"Effect of Temperature and Time of Heating on Loss in Weight and Resorption of Moisture," was prepared by D. Wolochow, Chemist, Division of Chemistry, National Research Laboratories, Ottawa, Canada, and W. Harold White, Biochemist, Food Storage and Transport Investigation, Division of Biology and Agriculture, but formerly also connected with the Division of Chemistry.

The second covers the "Effect of Heat on the Breaking Strength of Asbestos Tape and Glass Fibre Tape." D. Wolochow is the author.

The articles contain various tables and graphs of interest to those technically inclined.

A limited number of reprints has been ordered by "ASBESTOS"and a copy will be supplied upon request.

CATALOG ON "CENTURY" CORRUGATED

In order to give construction engineers complete information on their "Century" Asbestos-Cement Corrugated Roofing and Siding, the Keasbey & Mattison Company has completely revised and enlarged its catalog on this material.

The new catalog contains 36 pages, is printed in black and orange, and illustrated with photographs of actual installations. Both the material itself and methods and details of its application are fully covered by description and sketches.

A copy may be obtained without charge by anyone who cares to write the Company requesting it. Address Advertising Department, K&M, Ambler, Pa.

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THE RUBEROID CO. in its fifty-fourth annual report, shows for the year 1940 net profit of $802,100, equal to $2.02 per share, after providing for all deductions, including Federal income and capital stock taxes. Net profit of $608.128, equal to $1.53 per share was reported in 1939.

Net sales in 1940, the largest in the company's history, totaled $17,369,902, an increase of 9% over 1939 sales of $15,993,717. The increase in sales was due largely to two causes according to Herbert Abraham, President—an upward trend in private building thruout the year, particularly in the low cost residential field, and sales of Ruberoid products used on more than 100 construction projects related to the national defense, including cantonments, airports, plants for the manufacture of defense materials and housing for workers in defense industries. Sales to foreign customers in 1940 amounted to only one per cent of the total, and even this small percentage was almost entirely confined to countries outside the war zone.

Dividends declared and paid in 1940 amounted to $1.30 per share, compared with $1.10 per share in 1939.

The total of direct taxes provided for in 1940 amounted to $570.811, an increase of 34% over 1939 taxes of $425,947. No provision was made for excess profits tax under the Second Revenue Act of 1940 because computations indicated that none was required.

L. M. CASSIDY, Vice President, Johns-Manville Sales Corporation, is a member of the committee arranging the annual marketing conference sponsored by the Industrial and Consumer Marketing Divisions of the American Management Association, which will be held April 22nd and 23rd at Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, with sales managers from widely diversified industries thruout the nation attending.

THE PHILIP CAREY COMPANY announces the appointment of E. L. Clayton, as General Purchasing Agent, succeeding W. H. Scobie, who retired December 31, 1940, after serving the Company as Purchasing Agent for 34 years.

Mr. Clayton will be assisted by Milton R. Maddux, formerly Purchasing Agent for the County of Hamilton, Ohio, and previous to that was buyer for the Proctor & Gamble Company.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT & CO., San Francisco, Calif., has, in accordance with the will of J. B. Lippincott, who died on February 1st, been passed along to his associates, and the business is now being carried on by Ford Pierson, General Manager, and his Assistant, W. D. Mayfield, in Los Angeles; D. S. Riser, San Francisco Manager, and S. B. Riser, Seattle Manager.

THE CAROLINA ASBESTOS COMPANY, Davidson, N. C., has recently purchased the Marshville Cotton Mill at Marshville, N. C., as part of a $100,000 production expansion program. The plant is to be renovated and equipment installed for the manufacture of asbestos textiles. There is also contemplated expansion of the Davidson plant which will increase production.

ASBESTOS CORPORATION LIMITED, Thetford Mines, P. Q., has declared the usual quarterly dividend of 15 cents, and bonus of 15 cents, payable March 31 to shareholders of record March 15.

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Look out for the boy who has to plunge into work direct from the common school, and who begins by sweeping out the office. He is probably the dark horse you had better watch. — Andrew Carnegie.

PATENTS

This information obtained from the Official Patent Gazette, published weekly by the U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Insulation and Like Structures. No. 2,229,743. Granted on January 28, 1941 to Harry C. Karcher, Dearborn, Mich., assignor to Lambert M. Payne, Detroit, Mich. Application December 1, 1937. Serial No. 177,627.

In combination a corrugated sheet of paper, an approximately planular sheet of material overlying a piece of the first mentioned sheet and directly adhered to the first mentioned sheet along the high points of the corrugations on the corresponding face thereof, the line of adherence between the two sheets being substantially continuous and being interrupted substantially only at points on a line extending transversely of the lengths of said corrugations at which it is desired to later append said sheets.

NO STEEL OR WOOD USED--

So Asbestos Cement Pipes Aid Britain's New Factory Construction

It is only natural that the acute shortage of timber and the urgent national need of economy in the use of steel should have imposed severe limitations on British building enterprise. In spite of this, however, a certain number of factories concerned with the war effort have to be built and large numbers of barracks, stores and military buildings must be erected.

To achieve the seemingly impossible, that is to build really sound structures without wood or metal, a new method has been developed. This consists of using asbestos -cement pressure pipes for roof purlins and framework, floor joists and construction, beams and girders, lintels and rails, etc. These have recently been tested out by the Building Research Station working in close cooperation with one of the leading manufacturers in the country.

It is hoped that the adoption of the asbestos-cement tubular form of factory construction will not only save a considerable tonnage of wood and economize in the use of steel, but also facilitate the rapid erection of important government buildings.

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The 44th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials, and Sixth Exhibit of Testing Apparatus and Related Equipment will be held at The Palmer House in Chicago, June 23 to 27, inclusive. The Fourth Photograph Exhibit will also be a feature of the Chicago meeting.

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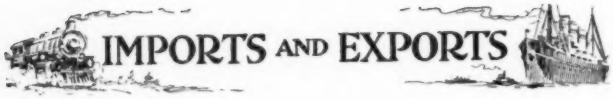
While no one knows what the more remote future may hold in store it can be said confidently that 1941 presents to the building products industry an opportunity for outstanding national service.—Herbert Abraham, President The Ruberoid Co.



Imports into U. S. A.

(Figures published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

Unmanufactured Asbestos:

	Dec. 1939 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Dec. 1940 Tons (2240 lbs.)
Africa (Br. S.)	1,257	836
Australia	.....	4
Bolivia	.....	1
Canada	20,070	20,885
Italy	8	.....
	21,335	21,726
Value	*$1,069,217*	*$983,782*

Tabulation by Grades:

Crude (Africa, Br. S.)	1,257	836
Crude (Australia)	.....	4
Crude (Bolivia)	.....	1
Crude (Canada)	216	135
Crude (Italy)	8	.....
Mill Fibre (Canada)	7,834	8,034
Lower Grades (Canada)	12,020	12,716
	21,335	21,726

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	Dec. 1939 Pounds	Dec. 1940 Pounds
Belgium (Shingles)	109,935	.....
Canada (Packing)	.....	100
Canada (Pipe Covg. & Cement)	.....	198
United Kingdom (Yarn)	3,784	3,840
United Kingdom (Packing)	4,753	1,888
United Kingdom (W. Fabrics)	.....	7,000
	118,472	13,026
Value	*$ 6,032*	*$10,118*

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR—IMPORTS INTO U. S. A

Unmanufactured Asbestos:	Year 1939 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Year 1940 Tons (2240 lbs.)
Africa (Br. S.)	9,996	14,645
Australia	47	25
Bolivia	.....	1
Br. India	.....	1
Canada	199,857	201,010
Cyprus	3,518	2,916
Finland	41	.....
Italy	506	815
Netherlands	.....	17
United Kingdom	266	16
U. S. S. R. (Russia)	2,331	.....
Venezuela	10	20
	216,572	219,466
Value	*$8,651,787*	*$10,036,433*

Manufactured Asbestos—By Countries:	Year 1939 Pounds	Year 1940 Pounds
Belgium	1,231,710	65,185
Canada	149	5,281
France	583	6,331
Germany	4,406	.....
United Kingdom	81,914	87,660
	1,318,762	164,457
Value	*$ 37,521*	*$64,144*

Manufactured Asbestos—By Materials:	Year 1939 Pounds	Year 1940 Pounds
Yarn		
United Kingdom	34,009	34,788
Canada	.....	4,745
Woven Fabrics		
France	532	.....
Germany	143	.....
U. K.	15,489	16,312
Packing		
Canada	20	100
France	.....	6,331
Germany	4,263	.....
United Kingdom	32,436	36,560
Shingles		
Belgium	1,231,710	65,185
Pipe and Boiler Covering		
Canada	180	436
	1,318,782	164,457

Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada

(Figures by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

	December 1939		December 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Crude and Milled Fibres	24,025	$1,820,079	15,623	$ 972,608
Sand and Waste	14,648	267,233	14,689	301,900
	38,673	$2,087,312	30,312	$1,274,508
Manufactured Asbestos	.....	$ 47,777	.....	$ 20,636

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR—Exports of Asbestos from Canada

	Year 1939		Year 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Crude and Milled Fibres	186,238	$12,463,177	181,646	$12,381,592
Sand and Waste	159,780	2,902,111	154,929	3,142,713
	346,018	$15,365,288	336,575	$15,524,305
Manufactured Asbestos	.....	$ 479,415	.....	$ 308,285

Since the figures for **exports of asbestos manufactures** have not been published each month, we give the summary for the year, by months, below:

	Year 1939	Year 1940		Year 1939	Year 1940
Jan.	$18,644	$58,894	July	$37,768	$ 7,133
Feb.	48,148	52,978	Aug.	70,184	2,827
Mar.	21,564	53,746	Sept.	37,685	6,546
Apr.	15,188	25,771	Oct.	60,152	16,374
May	41,139	22,684	Nov.	56,076	37,229
June	25,090	3,467	Dec.	47,777	20,636
				479,415	308,285

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Exports of Raw Asbestos from South Africa.

	April 1939		April 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Algeria	10	£ 184	.....	£ .....
Argentine	20	533	.....	.....
Australia	95	1,557	72	1,331
Belgium	51	1,196	.....	.....
Denmark	1	6	.....	.....
France	63	1,356	146	3,289
Germany	287	3,995	.....	.....
Netherlands	10	175	47	1,402

Exports of Raw Asbstos from South Africa. (Contd.)

	April 1939		April 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
New Zealand	.....	.....	10	242
Italy	16	241	49	2,729
Japan	204	4,370	240	5,526
Portugal	10	267	10	268
Sweden	12	331	.....	.....
United Kingdom	450	13,528	927	20,003
United States	336	7,814	280	5,832
Optional	5	147	.....	.....
	1,570	£35,700	1,781	£40,622

	May 1939		May 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Australia	10	£ 186	88	£ 1,510
Belgium	19	467	.....	.....
Canada	.....	.....	11	220
France	200	4,873	221	5,923
Germany	16	578	.....	.....
Italy	136	3,474	.....	.....
Japan	278	6,908	280	6,079
Portugal	.....	.....	10	268
Spain	7	120	.....	.....
United Kingdom	1,012	20,486	766	13,711
United States	388	9,049	433	9,829
	2,066	£46,141	1,809	£37,540

	June 1939		June 1940	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Australia	20	£ 372	36	£ 712
Belgium	22	534	.....	.....
Canada	20	378	25	500
France	209	4,978	66	1,737
Germany	174	5,551	.....	.....
Netherlands	1	24	.....	.....
Italy	229	5,566	.....	.....
Japan	66	1,462	291	6,725
Portugal	9	264	.....	.....
United Kingdom	653	15,136	791	15,581
United States	319	7,235	429	9,967
	1,722	£41,500	1,638	£35,222

PRODUCTION STATISTICS

Africa (Union of South)

(Statistics published by Dept. of Mines, and Industries of U. of S. A.)

	Sept. 1939 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Sept. 1940 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Transvaal		
Amosite	1,117	1,566
Blue	244	156
Chrysotile	33	62
Cape		
Blue	533	505
	1,927	2,289

Canada.

(Statistics published by Bureau of Mines, Province of Quebec).

Production December 1940 ..... 28,967 tons (2000 lbs.)
Production December 1939 ..... 31,930 tons (2000 lbs.)

For the year ending December 31st, production of asbestos, divided into three classifications, was as follows:

	Year 1939 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Year 1940 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Crude	3,122	2,076
Fibres	193,973	181,890
Shorts	167,359	161,615
	364,454	345,581

Our January number (page 38) estimated the total Canadian Production of Asbestos in 1940 as 339,000 tons; the actual figure 345,581 tons (6500 tons higher) was brought about by a higher production in November and December than we had calculated. However, our guess was really not so bad!

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Automobile production in the United States and Canada for January 1941 totalled 524,126, the highest month since May 1937, when 540,377 motor vehicles were produced. Of this January total 500,931 motor vehicles were produced in the United States and 23,195 in Canada.

The total for January 1940 was 449,492 and for December 1940 506,931.

CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

Canadian

	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b Mine (In U.S. Funds)
Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1)	$700.00 to $750.00
Group No. 2 (Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry)	150.00 to 350.00
Group No. 3 (Spinning or Textile Fibre)	110.00 to 200.00
Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre)	57.00 to 85.50
Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre)	40.00 to 49.50
Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster)	30.00 to 32.00
Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts)	13.00 to 28.00

Vermont—

	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b Hyde Park, Vt.
"Shingle" Fibre	$57.00 to $60.00
Paper Stock Fibres	40.00 to 48.00
Waste	30.00
Shorts	13.00 to 26.00
Floats	18.00

Note: Crude Run-of-Mine (Canadian) refers to a crude asbestos produced in certain mines where Crude Fibre is not graded into regular No. 1 and 2 Crude. Crude Sundry refers to certain odd lots of off grade material which do not conform to the regular standards of No. 1 Crude or No. 2 Crude.

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(These figures are compiled from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle. No guarantee made as to their correctness.)

		February 1941		
	Par	Low	High	Last
Armstrong Cork Co. (Com.)	np	28¾	31¼	29½
Asbestos Corp. (Com.)	np	15	16½	16
Celotex (Com.)	np	7⅝	9¼	9¼
Celotex (Pfd.)	100	63½	71	70
Certainteed (Com.)	1	3¾	4½	4⅛
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	25¾	32½	28½
Flintkote (Com.)	np	12⅜	13⅞	13¾
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	55	58¾	58⅝
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	125	128	127¾
Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.)	np	18½	19⅝	19
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	15	16⅜	16
Thermoid (Com.)	1	4	4½	4¼
Thermoid (Pfd.)	10	30¾	34	34
U. S. Gypsum (Com.)	20	60	65	62¼
U. S. Gypsum (Pfd.)	100	165	180	175

THIS and THAT

The 19th Edition of the Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning Guide for 1941 is now available. All of the 26 chapters have been rearranged and grouped into seven sections, to provide a more logical arrangement and to improve the correlation between the Technical and Catalog Data Sections of the book. The chapter on Heat Transmission Coefficients and Tables contains new data developed by recent research investigations.

The Guide is priced at $5.00 a copy; send your orders to "ASBESTOS", 16th Fl., Inquirer Bldg., Philadelphia.

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Net sales of General Electric Company for the year 1940 amounted to $411,938,000, compared with $304,680,000 for 1939, an increase of 35 per cent. Orders received during the year amounted to $654,190,000, a record high figure and equivalent to an increase of 81% over 1939.

Net income for the year 1940, after provision for all charges was $56,241,000, equivalent to $1.95 a share of common stock.

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Preliminary report on Asbestos, the Raw Material, has been issued by the Bureau of Census, Washington, D. C. This covers 1939 and gives comparative figures for 1929 and 1919 on number of mines, operating companies, wage earners, production, expenses, and other general information on the industry. Obtainable by request to the Bureau of Census.

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Censorships, blockades and other exigencies of war are interfering with delivery of U. S. mails, and it may be that some copies of "ASBESTOS" may not reach our subscribers in England, or in European or other countries. If you find that some of your 1940 copies are missing, we shall be glad to supply duplicates upon request—hoping that the duplicates will get thru, that is, so long as our stock lasts.

. . . YOU CAN BUILD PACKING SALES WITH

EHRET'S VALLEY FORGE PACKINGS

They are quality packings, the line is comprehensive and complete, and prices are right. As a result of standardization by Ehret packing experts, dealer's stocks need not be large and special items are reduced to a minimum.

A packing manual which includes sections devoted to descriptions, recommendations and engineering data has been prepared by the Ehret Company to assist users of packings in selecting the proper type for a particular service. A copy of this effective sales aid will be sent to you on request.

EHRET MAGNESIA MANUFACTURING CO.

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Manufacturers of Fine Quality Asbestos Textile Products since 1919

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The facilities of our sales and research organization are at the disposal of any manufacturer who has a problem to solve which involves the use of fabricated asbestos.

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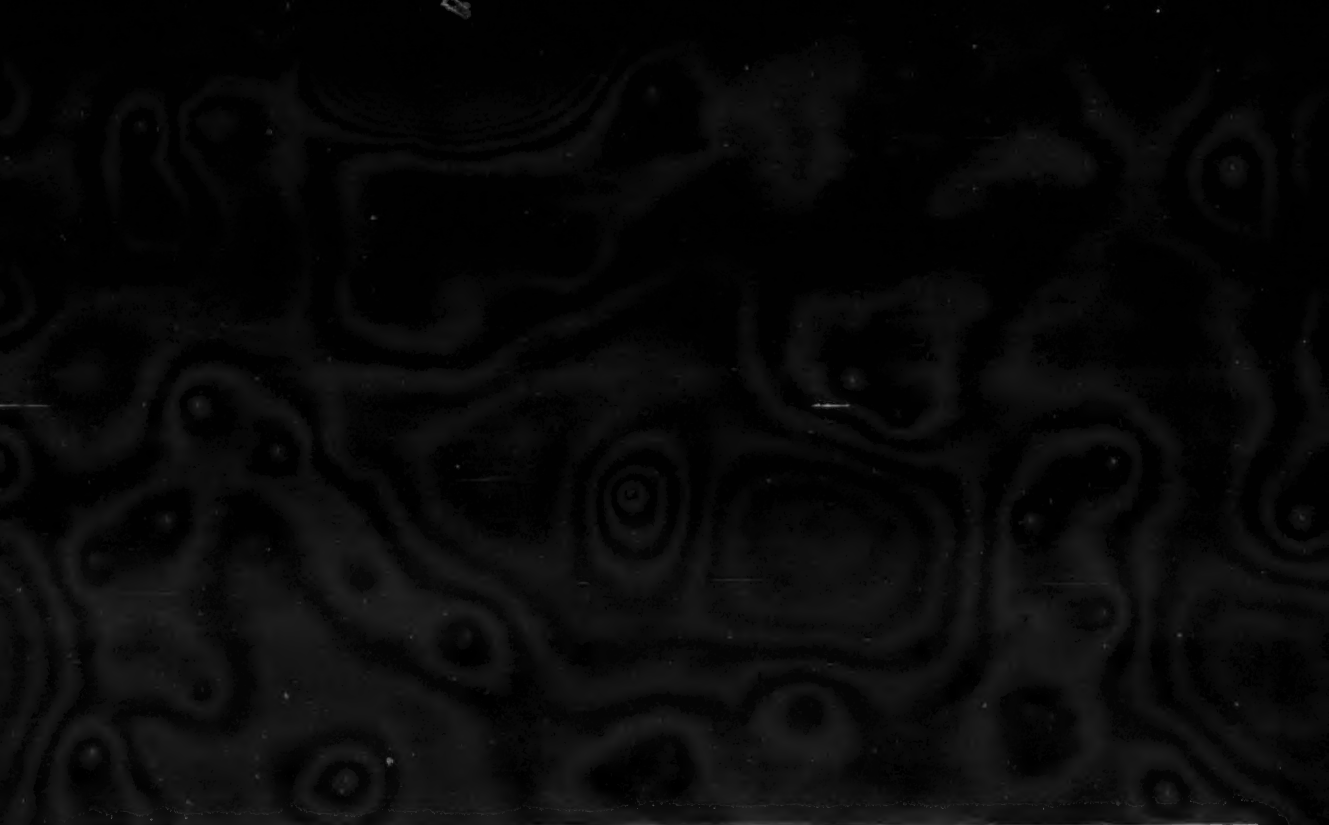
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